

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY



JERRAMIAH T. HEALY  
MAYOR

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November 22, 2010

Hon. Governor Chris Christie  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

***Re.: Proposed Spectra Energy Natural Gas Pipeline***

Dear Governor Christie,

I want to commend your administration for the important step you took in filing a motion last week to intervene in opposition to Liberty Natural Gas' application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to build a pipeline from Asbury Park to Middlesex County.

You are quoted in last Friday's *Star-Ledger* as opposing this project and that you "will not subject our state's shore and economy to the environmental risks that are inseparable from such a project."

I am asking that you take the same strong stance in opposition to the natural gas pipeline that Spectra Energy is proposing for Jersey City, our state's second largest city.

Since January, I have stated my opposition to this project in light of the potential hazards it would pose, the negative effects of which would potentially be felt, not only by the residents of Jersey City, but also by the New York metropolitan region and possibly the world's financial markets.

The proposed route is set to traverse the most densely populated sections of Jersey City that contain numerous and antiquated utilities already present within our roadways. The construction of the 30" pipeline will also hamper our public right-of-way in terms of the impact to our existing utilities and limit future residential and commercial development. Additionally, it will have a significant negative economic impact on private properties adjacent to the pipeline.

The line will transport up to 800 (psi) pounds per square inch per day of natural gas through an area of Jersey City that is host to a number of entities classified as Tier 1 and Tier 2 Critical Infrastructure by the Department of Homeland Security, including the New Jersey Turnpike, the PATH Transit System, the Holland Tunnel, the Hudson Bergen Light Rail, as well as many

global financial institutions. In addition, the Tropicana Plant, which houses an Anhydrous Ammonia containment vessel, is located on the proposed pipeline route.

We already know what happened in San Bruno, Calif. when a natural gas pipeline of the same size exploded there this past September. In Jersey City, failure of this 30" high pressure gas pipeline would be catastrophic: all of the existing water, gas, electric and telecommunication services would be severely affected and the New Jersey Turnpike, PATH trains and the entrance to the Holland Tunnel would be rendered out of commission.

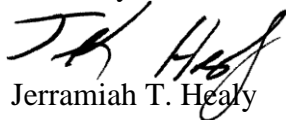
The resulting devastation would severely hamper our emergency response team due to impassable routes and a lack of resources to fight this type and magnitude of failure. The destruction and disruption of major financial institutions located on our waterfront would cause a ripple effect throughout markets worldwide. The safety of thousands of residents would be put in considerable jeopardy. Finally, the line would also increase the vulnerability of Jersey City as a potential target for terror attacks.

In July, I and members of my staff met with members of your administration to discuss our serious concerns over this proposed pipeline. We are moving forward with our intention of filing for intervenor status and will do so once Spectra Energy formally files their application which is expected in December.

A number of agencies that report directly to the state, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, NJ Transit and the Department of Environmental Protection have written to FERC and expressed their own concerns about this project.

At this time, we are urging you to take the same position as you did in Asbury and file for intervenor status to stop this pipeline – not only for the safety and well-being of our more than 240,000 residents, but for the continued economic stability of our city and state and its 8.7 million residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Healy", is written over the printed name.

Jerramiah T. Healy  
Mayor

cc: Senator Sandra Bolden-Cunningham  
Council President Peter Brennan  
Members of the Municipal Council